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in 1900 or 1901. The issue may turn upon whether the writing was made with one pen or another; whether upon paper made from cotton, linen, straw or wood; and if from wood, whether from pine or spruce or some other kind of wood.

Much consideration is given to the value of the use of chemical processes in the solution of many of the problems which arise in this field.

The book is one which the law interested in the trial of cases involving the genuineness of documents can scarcely afford to overlook, so full is it of suggestions for the solution of his problems.

V. H. LANE.

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THE PRESIDENTIAL CAMPAIGN OF 1832. By Samuel Rhea Gammon. Johns Hopkins University Studies in Historical and Political Science, Series XL, No. 1. Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins Press. 1922. Pp. 180.

The election of 1832, coming at the end of Jackson's first administration when Jacksonian Democracy had found characteristic expression in the removals from office, the attack on the United States Bank, and the Maysville Road veto, was of sufficient importance to warrant a detailed study of the campaign which preceded it. Well organized and readable, this monograph throws new light upon many familiar themes and gathers into convenient form much hitherto widely scattered information. An introductory chapter is devoted to the origins of parties in the campaign of 1824 and during the administration of John Quincy Adams, while in succeeding chapters are discussed the parts played by the Anti-Masonic, National Republican, and Democratic parties, and by the bank issue. Most of the important sources for this period are listed in an uncritical bibliography.

Among the contributions which Dr. Gammon claims for this study, greatest emphasis is given to a detailed account of the development of the national nominating convention. Its immediate origin is traced for the first time, according to the author, to the Pennsylvania state convention which nominated Jackson for the presidency in 1824 (page 18). It should be noted, however, that the place held by this assembly in the evolution of the national convention was suggested by J. S. Walton, "The Nominating Convention in Pennsylvania" (*American Historical Review*, 1897, page 278). The essential features of convention organization at the present time are found in the conventions held by the Anti-Masonic (pages 36-52), National Republican (pages 60-71), and Democratic parties (pages 95-104). The unshakable determination of the National Republicans to support Clay, even in the face of certain defeat, is more clearly stated here than elsewhere (page 71). While the letters of John McLean, member at that time of the Supreme Court, are used to show that McLean was clearly the choice of the Anti-Masons for their presidential nomination until his definite refusal was received (pages 44-48), no mention is made of the significant fact that Nicholas Biddle, president of the United States Bank, personally worked for McLean's nomination or that a movement developed in Ohio and Pennsylvania to secure his nomination by either of the two important parties as

a candidate who could unite the moderate elements of all parties. Much attention is given to the quarrel between Van Buren and Calhoun which resulted in the latter's break with Jackson (pages 74-95), and new information has been gleaned from the Biddle papers as to the extent of the bank's participation in the campaign (Chapter V). Biddle's attitude in politics is most clearly seen in the negotiations which took place between Biddle and Edward Livingston, then secretary of state, in February, 1832, since they reveal Biddle's willingness to reach an understanding with the administration after the bank issue had become identified with the National Republican party. No mention, however, is made of this episode. It is clear that Biddle acted largely upon the advice of George McDuffie, chairman of the Committee on Ways and Means, in presenting the bank's memorial for a recharter before the election (page 127), but no attempt is made to explain McDuffie's point of view. There is reason to believe that he intended to drive a sharp bargain with the National Republicans which would secure for the southern extremists a lower tariff. In Appendix I a definitive analysis is made of the origin and use of party names during this period. The thoroughness of Dr. Gammon's research at times leaves something to be desired. In this connection, it should be noted that more complete returns from the election of 1832 exist than those which are reprinted from Niles' Register in Appendix IV (cf. Benjamin Matthias, *The Politician's Register*, Philadelphia, 1835), and that Van Buren's campaign letter, reprinted in Appendix II, in which a clear statement of Jacksonian principles is given, may be more easily consulted in Niles' Register (XLIII, 125, 126) than as a pamphlet in the Van Buren papers.

By keeping to the familiar themes of political intrigue and institutions, little attention has been given to the economic aspects of the campaign. Reference is made to the West as the chief source of Jackson's strength, but the more obscure problem as to the attitude of the increasingly self-conscious workingmen in the East is not discussed. No notice is taken of the appeal of the National Republican newspapers to property owners in showing that the veto of the bank bill had resulted in a decline of real estate values. An election map showing the returns by counties would have been helpful in an understanding of the parties involved. In restricting his study to the political aspects of the campaign, Dr. Gammon has made, the present reviewer believes, a limited use of his opportunities.

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